

Message Text

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PAGE 01 RANGOO 02953 190557Z

21

ACTION TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-05 IO-04

JUSE-00 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SNM-02 SY-04 USIA-06 NSC-05

SCI-02 OMB-01 AID-05 IGA-01 L-01 DRC-01 /045 W

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R 180845Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8676

C O N F I D E N T I A L RANGOON 2953

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR BM

SUBJ: CUSTOMS TRAINING AND ASSISTANCE

REF: RANGOON 2556

1. MRSSRS KEENAN AND MURPHY, U.S. CUSTOMS OPERATIONS OFFICERS, CALLED ON U MYA THEIN, DIRECTOR-GENERAL, GUB CUSTOMS ON OCTOBER 16. DIRECTOR-GENERAL JOINED BY SEVERAL ASSISTANTS AND STAFF MEMBERS TO LISTEN TO PRESENTATION ON CUSTOMS TRAINING PROGRAMS. PRESENTATION WAS WELL-ACCEPTED AND FOLLOWED BY REMARKS AND QUERIES WHICH INDICATED FURTHER INTEREST.

2. GENERAL TENOR OF MEETING FURTHER INDICATED THAT BURMESE NOT PREPARED AT THIS TIME TO ACCEPT CUSTOMS TRAINING TEAM IN BURMA, BUT THAT MID-MANAGEMENT COURSE IN U.S. MORE FITTING TO THEIR NEEDS. LEFT UNSAID, BUT OBVIOUS POINT OF QUERIES, WAS DIFFICULTY FOR GUB TO FINANCE INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL ASPECT OF TRAINING COURSES. PAST EXPERIENCE HERE HAS BEEN THAT GUB APPEARED WILLING TO PARTICIPATE IN CERTAIN PROGRAMS, BUT UNABLE TO BUDGET FOR INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL.

3. BROCHURES AND OTHER MATERIALS LEFT WITH GUB CUSTOMS OFFICIALS FOR FURTHER DELIBERATION. EMBASSY POINT OF CONTACT FOR ADDITIONAL QUERIES ALSO ESTABLISHED.

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4. COMMENT: THIS IS FIRST EXPRESSION IN SOME TIME OF INTEREST IN

U.S. SUPPORTED TRAINING PROGRAMS. PAST OFFERS, LARGELY USAID
POLICE TRAINING PROGRAMS AND DEA NARCOTICS COURSES, HAVE BEEN
DISREGARDED, PROBABLY BECAUSE OF NATURE OF COURSE SPONSORS AS WELL
AS SIMPLE BUREAUCRATIC INERTIA. HOWEVER, NONPOLITICAL FLAVOR OF
CUSTOMS-TO-CUSTOMS TRAINING MAY BE MORE APPEALING TO GUB. WE
INTEND TO PURSUE THE INTEREST IN LOW-KEY MANNER. NO MENTION WAS
MADE OF MOTOR BOATS AS ANTICIPATED IN REFTEL.
OSBORN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DRUG CONTROL, PERSONNEL TRAINING, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, CUSTOMS OFFICIALS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: shawdg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974RANGOO02953
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740298-0288
From: RANGOON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741035/aaaabdud.tel
Line Count: 69
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION TRSE
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: RANGOON 2556
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 JUL 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <19 MAR 2003 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CUSTOMS TRAINING AND ASSISTANCE
TAGS: SNAR, BM, (KEENAN), (MURPHY)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005